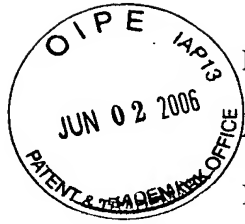


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Patent Application No. 10/780,889

Applicant: NAKADEGUCHI et al.

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Docket No.: 402979

Customer No.: 23548

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated March 22, 2006, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.